

Semi-Annual Report July-December 2020 Public Charter School Program Grant Federal Award No. U282A150023

Semi-Annual Performance Report

July 1-December 31, 2020

GRANT ACTIVITIES

Between July 1 and December 31, 2020, the Ohio Department of Education performed the following grant activities.

CSP Subgrantee Application Scoring:

- July 1: Conducted CSP Peer Review Training
- July 2-6: Peer Review Read and Sample Scoring
- July 8: Peer Review Calibration Call
- July 9-28: Peer Review and Tech Review of Subgrantee Applications
- July 30-31: Peer Review Consensus Scoring Call

CSP Round 3 Closeout:

July 9: Central Achievement Academy (Formerly South West Ohio Preparatory Academy)
 final reimbursement payment was issued to close out all Round 3 grant activities

CSP Round 4 Subgrantee Awards:

- September 11: Approved CSP Sub-Grantees (6 New Subgrantees and 5 Continuation Grants Awarded)
 - October 6: Received an appeal request to re-review Central Point Preparator Academy's arm's length requirement
 - October 28: After receiving an appeal request from Central Point Preparatory Academy, a review was conducted, and Central Point was Conditionally Approved (Condition was to submit a procurement policy and treasurer contract)
- September 22: CSP Sub-Grant Awardee Training
 - November 13: Central Point Awardee Training

CSP Subgrantee Monitoring:

- July 6: FY20 CSP Grant Progress Final Review Opened
- August 7: FY20 CSP Grant Final Review Survey complete
- December 13: FY21 CSP Fall Review Compliance Survey opened

CSP Advisory Committee:

- July 15: Semi-Annual CSP Advisory Committee Skype Meeting
- November 23: Invite sent to Michelle Ritchlin (Formerly Nichelle Shaukus)
- December 15: Semi Annual CSP Advisory Committee Skype Meeting to discuss CSP Grant Subgrantees, Upcoming RFA changes, and semi-annual report

Independent Monitor:

- September 23: Ohio AUP approved by USED
- September 23: All requested Agreed-upon Procedures items submitted for final review to the independent monitor.

WestEd Monitoring:

August 26: Post Monitoring Call (West Ed Final Report)

CSP Round 5 (ESSA Flexibility)

 September 18: Submitted No Cost Extension to U.S. Department of Education, approved on September 21.

GRANT EXPENDITURES:

\$1,042,514.30 were expended from the grant for the current reporting period.

UPDATE ON GRANT PROJECT TIMELINES:

The project timeline has been updated.
*Attached: Ohio CSP Workplan and Community School Directory

UPDATES ON AUDIT FINDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS OF AUDITS INVOLVING CHARTER SCHOOLS IN OHIO, INCLUDING THE AUTHORIZERS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND INVOLVEMENT:

Attached: Appendix C 11 30 2020 CS Audit Reports

This biannual update includes information on community school audit reports released by the Auditor of State during the reporting period of June 1, 2020 through November 30, 2020.

Appendix C usually includes information on the single audits. However, no single audit reports were issued during this reporting period. The file continues to report the active findings for recovery being handled by the Attorney General's Office.

The Auditor of State's Office performs financial audits (regular and single audits) and various other special audits, retirement system examinations, and agreed upon procedures of community schools. Regular financial statement audits are independent, objective evaluations of an organization's financial reports and financial reporting processes. The primary purpose of regular financial audits is to give regulators, investors, directors, and managers reasonable assurance that financial statements are accurate and complete.

Single audits combine the annual financial statement audit with additional audit coverage of federal funds. The single audit is intended to meet the basic audit needs of both the non-federal entity and federal awarding agencies. Before Dec. 26, 2014, all community schools receiving at least \$500,000 annually required a single audit. All awards made on or after Dec. 26, 2014, were subject to the Uniform Guidance, which sets the threshold at \$750,000 or more.

The Auditor of State may declare community schools as "unauditable." The auditor finds a school unauditable if its financial records are not sufficient to complete an audit. There are no community schools on the unauditable list for this reporting period.

1. Auditor of State Community School Audit Updates

The Auditor of State completed and issued 27 community school audit reports since the Department's last report to the USED. Table 1 reflects the audit reports released between June 1, 2020 and November 30, 2020.

Fiscal Year	Regular Audit	Single Audit	Other Audits	Total Audits
2020	0	0	1	1
2019 *	22	0	0	22
2018	0	0	0	0
2017	4	0	0	4
Total	26	0	1	27

^{*} The regular audits include one report that covered FY18 and FY19.

2. New Financial Audit Findings - All Fiscal Years

There are no single audit findings for this reporting period. We continue to review all audit reports as they are released. Single audit reports issued in the future will be reviewed, and management decisions on findings will be made pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.521(d).

3. Summary of Resolutions for Previously Unresolved Findings

The Department received an updated report on the status of findings for recovery being handled by the Attorney General's Office. Findings for recovery in "active" collection status are listed in Appendix C. (See the "Active Findings for Recovery" spreadsheet.) The schools with repayment activity during this reporting period are highlighted.

As reflected in Table 2, the Auditor of State issued a finding for recovery to one school. The Department previously certified the amount to the Attorney General's Office for collection.

Table 2: Finding for Recovery

Year	School	Details
2019	Wings Academy 2	Finding: 1) Noncompliance. Finding for Recovery - Ohio Department of Education Foundation Payments. A \$76,950 finding for recovery was issued against the school in favor of ODE. The school opened to educate students in fiscal year 2019 but did not obtain the required 25 students to operate as required by Ohio law. Also, a \$2,910 finding for recovery was issued against Kids Count of Dayton, the Academy's sponsor, for the amount of fees paid. A finding for recovery of \$9,948 was issued against The Genesis Group & Associates, LLC, the management company, for the amount of fees paid. Both findings are in favor of ODE. The Genesis Group repaid \$9,948 to Wings Academy 2 on 6/30/20, but the auditors did not see the amount as paid to ODE. Note: The Department has no record of the \$9,948
		amount being repaid.

4. Other Audit Findings

The Auditor of State issued one audit in this category. No findings or areas of weakness were identified in the School Employees Retirement System Census Data Examination report.